FACT SHEET

March 2000

PROJECT: Chicago Lock (Chicago River Mile 0; Illinois Waterway Mile 327.2; Chart #14928)

AUTHORIZATION: The operation and maintenance of the Chicago Harbor Lock by the Federal government was authorized by Public Law 98-63, Section 107 of Public Law 97-88 and Memorandum of Agreement between the Chicago District Corps of Engineers and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC). Lock is managed as a part of the Chicago Harbor, IL Navigation Project.

TYPE: Operations and Maintenance - Navigation

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Chicago Lock is located at the mouth of the Chicago River in downtown Chicago adjacent to Navy Pier, a major tourist and entertainment attraction. Chicago Lock was constructed by MWRDGC between 1936 and 1938. The Corps began operating the lock in 1984. The Lock is 600' long, 80' wide, 22.4' (low pool) deep, with a lift of 2' to 4' and a sector type gate. During 1995, it ranked first in the nation in number of vessels locked (62,734).

CURRENT STATUS: Major repairs to the gate seals, tracks, rollers and hinges were completed April 1, 1999, \$4 million under estimated budget and two weeks ahead of schedule. The repairs control leakage and maintain operational integrity. Major Rehabilitation Evaluation Report was completed in 1999., recommending repair to the upper gate frames and walkways, mechanical and electrical operating systems, control housing complex, and lock walls and guide walls. Utilities will be relocated in FY2000 at the headlands area where the future dock wall will be constructed. Design of a dockwall will be completed in FY2000 which will allow a small truck crane needed for lock repairs to be loaded onto a barge. The Major Rehabilitation Evaluation Report identified one of the first design items to be repair of the lock gates.

PLANNED MAINTENANCE WORK:

FY 00 (\$1,000,000)

- Utility Relocation at the headlands area
- Design of dock wall at the headlands area

FY01 (\$500,000)

• Complete construction of dock wall

FY02 (\$426,000)

• Complete design of lock gate repair

PROJECT COSTS:

Operation \$1.2 million annually
Maintenance Varies
Major Rehab \$+8 million

BENEFITS: Navigation

LOCAL SPONSOR: N/A

ISSUES/CONCERNS:

- Repairs are necessary for maintaining operations of the locks for navigation.
- This is a high use lock with low commodity tonnages. Bulk of the traffic is commercial cruise and passenger vessels and recreational craft.
- Operating and control systems are antiquated.

PROJECT MANAGER: Don Wadleigh